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Be a Voice for

***Support and champion
their full potential***

You are receiving this newsletter because Girl Scouts of Orange County recognizes you as a Voice for Girls in Orange County (donor, alum, or Voice for Girls event attendee). You may have previously received separate donor, alum, or Voice for Girls newsletters from us. This new streamlined format is sent quarterly and includes inspiring stories and opportunities to be a champion for girls' and women's leadership in Orange County.

Happy New Year from Girl Scouts of Orange County!

We hope this message finds you safe, renewed, and connected to what matters most. As we reflect on a year that has tested our collective

strength and resolve, we are so proud of how our girls, volunteers, staff, board, and supporters have continued to stay safely connected to each other, our community, and our global sisterhood.

Our commitment to providing *all girls* with life-changing opportunities to grow, give back, and change the world has never been stronger. There is so much for every Girl Scout to look forward to. This month, thousands of OC Girl Scouts embark on a Cookie Program like no other as they get creative with new online and contactless ways to share the joy of Girl Scout Cookies through the largest girl-led entrepreneurship program. Girls as young as five years old are embracing their entrepreneurial spirit, staying connected to their communities, and having fun by participating in the cookie program.

We also opened our virtual Girl Scout Lounge this month – a place for older Girl Scouts (Cadettes to Ambassadors) to come together to socialize, unwind, and participate in fun activities that support creativity, stress management, and wellness. Learn more about the **Girl Scout Lounge**. I'm looking forward to leading a session **Sunday, February 14, 2021: Galentine Jewelry Making**.

Please also mark your calendars for our virtual **Voice for Girls 2021 on the morning of Friday, May 7** with keynote Andrea Bastiani Archibald, a renowned developmental psychologist who will join us for a compelling discussion examining the importance of the all-girl environment in developing our future female leaders. **More information coming soon!**

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for everything you have done, and continue to do, to prepare girls for a lifetime of opportunity and leadership.

Be well,

Vikki Shepp



A Year Like No Other – Girl Scouts of Orange County Annual Report



The Girl Scouts of Orange County 2020 Annual Report is now available online. From stepping up to show appreciation to frontline workers and finding new and innovative ways to experience Girl Scout traditions, to building bridges between cultures and celebrating accomplishments while staying safe, Girl Scouts demonstrated impressive resiliency in 2020. We invite you to explore the many ways Girl Scouts across Orange County are building courage, confidence, and character to become the leaders our businesses, communities, and world need.

READ THE 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Girl Scout Cookie Season Brings Joy to OC



If there's one thing Girl Scouts never run out of, it's innovation! Girl Scouts are getting creative this year to share the joy of Girl Scout Cookies – including the brand-new Toast-Yay! cookie– with customers across Orange County. Every box of Girl Scout Cookies purchased helps girls build leadership skills to power their future success.

The Girl Scout Cookie Program runs through **March 7** in Orange County and, for the first time, girls will be taking contact-free pickup and delivery orders through a new national collaboration with **Grubhub** (starting on

January 28 in Orange County).

New this year, Girl Scouts of Orange County is also inviting local businesses to participate in **The Great Girl Scout Cookie Buy Out** to support local Girl Scout troops in reaching their goals during a time when booth sales in front of retail locations may not be possible. Girl Scout Cookies are the perfect way to share joy with employees, vendors, and colleagues. Or, businesses can choose to donate cookies they purchase to the military, local food banks, and first responders as a tax-deductible.

Learn More About This Year's Cookie Program

Sponsorship opportunities are available. Contact Lauren Ruiz at lruiz@girlscoutsoc.org for more information.

2020 GSOC Highest Awards Yearbook



We are #ThankfulForGirlScouts who make the world a better place! Check out our new *2020 GSOC Highest Awards Yearbook* and be inspired by the amazing ways Girl Scouts took action to make our world a better place! Our online yearbook recognizes **Bronze Award Girl Scouts**, **Silver Award Girl Scouts**, and **Gold Award Girl Scouts**, who have earned Girl Scouts' Highest Awards! View the **2020 Highest Awards Yearbook** on the **Highest Awards page**.

LEARN MORE

Girl Scouts Celebrates National Financial Planning

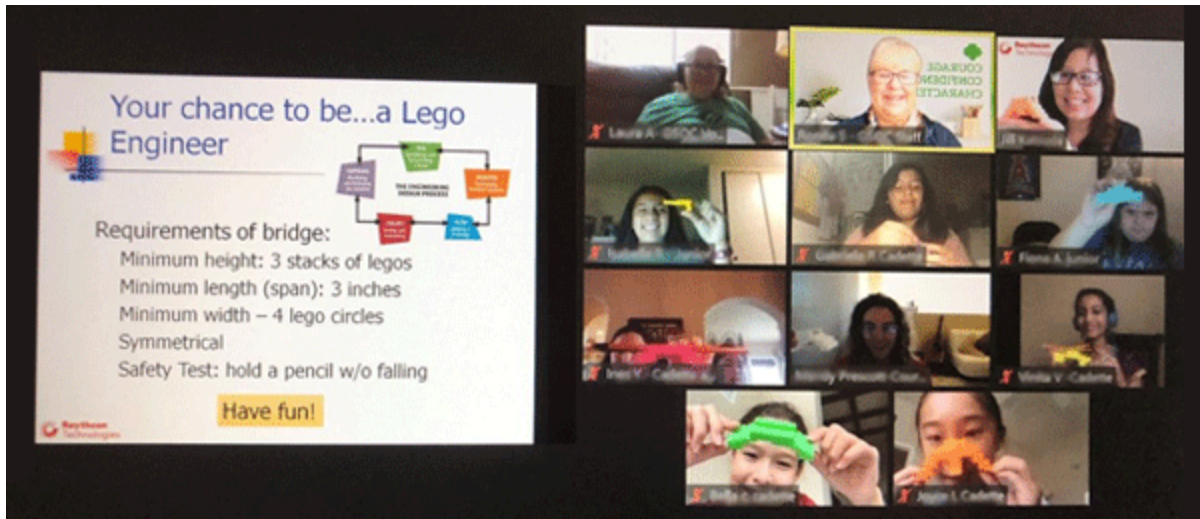
Month



Photo taken pre-COVID

October was National Financial Planning Month - a month dedicated to creating a financial plan or reviewing an existing one. Personal financial planning is essential to everyone, regardless of age or income. This year, nearly 800 Girl Scouts participated in Financial Planning Month, hosted by volunteers from eight local organizations: Union Bank, Bank of America, US Bank, WISE, Martlet Asset Management, LLC, PIMCO, Morgan Stanley, and VicTree Financial LLC. Together, over 30 hours of financial education took place via Zoom calls. Many thanks to our program providers for their great support of Girl Scouts of Orange County's Financial Planning Month and commitment to providing local girls opportunities to learn and grow.

The GSOC STEM Consortium Builds Tomorrow's STEM Leaders



Girl Scouts all across Orange County have been busy in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math). October marked the 5th annual (and first virtual) GSOC STEM Expo, created by GSOC's Volunteer STEM Patrol in partnership with Cal State Fullerton. Nearly 200 Juniors and Cadettes participated in this hands-on STEM event and spent the afternoon having fun with bridge and tower building, marshmallow cannon and catapult creations, coding, astronomy, biology, and more exciting activities led by 23 exhibitors! STEM Patrol volunteers also led our last virtual Coding for Good session in October, part of a five-week series that taught 40 girls to code an app for their phones. In November, 30 Girl Scout Brownies participated in Bunny Bots! Leap Bot Design Challenge and learned about energy, force, and other engineering concepts while building bouncing bunny toys and testing how high they could jump. Rounding out the year in December, Girl Scout Juniors, Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors gathered virtually and built model rockets under the instruction of engineers from GSOC's STEM Patrol, Northrop Grumman, and Raytheon. Meanwhile, GSOC's five FIRST Lego League teams have been meeting virtually to navigate robotics. Participating Girl Scouts are also preparing for their virtual mock tournament in January and local qualifying tournament in February.

*Thanks to the generosity of **STEM Consortium** sponsors, OC Girl Scouts are exploring Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math every year and recognizing the importance and power of STEM for their future success.*

An Evening of Philanthropy with the Promise Circle



Nearly 80 of our Promise Circle founding members gathered virtually in November to kick off the holiday season and debut the brand-new Girl Scout Cookie – Toast-Yay!™! Jason McClain, Winemaker and Proprietor of McClain Cellars, paired his fabulous wines with Toast-Yay!, Caramel deLite and Thin Mint cookies. Each pairing received rave reviews, as participants enjoyed the surprising notes and flavors. Members also heard from a few top Girl Scout Cookie entrepreneurs and listened to a conversation on philanthropy between Girl Scout Board Advisory Girl, Sabine Lerner, and Nella Webster O’Grady, 2020 Orange County National Philanthropy Day’s Outstanding Philanthropist, both Promise Circle members.

The Promise Circle is made up of generous supporters who join together with their investment, advocacy, and networking to help ensure sustainability of the life-changing benefits girls gain through the Girl

Scout Leadership Experience. Become part of this inspiring group of committed Promise Circle members who know that when we invest in girls, they will change the world.

JOIN THE PROMISE CIRCLE

Juliette Gordon Low Society Spotlight – Jill Patterson



"I truly believe in the Girl Scout movement, one that offers all girls opportunities to learn new skills, try new activities, and give back to the community. In new leader orientations, I stress that the Girl Scout Law is not just words; it is a model to live by for both girls and their leaders. Girl Scouts make the world a better place for everyone."

Beyond being a proud mom of a Girl Scout alum, GSOC Volunteer Jill Patterson's service spans many areas, from serving as the Brea Service Unit (SU) Manager for 10 years, being a SU Level Consultant, SU Fall Product Sales Manager for both Brea and La Habra, and volunteering at

GSOC's Brea Day Camp since 2001. She has been a Council trainer for New Leader Orientation since 2004 and has trained hundreds of new leaders. Jill loves being with the girls, and currently serves on the STEM Expo, Hiking, and Day of Service Committees.

Jill believes so deeply in Girl Scouts that she has included Girl Scouts of Orange County in her bequest plans, making her a member of our **Juliette Gordon Low Society**. Thank you, Jill, for your passion to share the Girl Scout mission with others!

To learn more about how you can leave your legacy as a Girl Scout advocate, please contact Barbara Powers, VP of Fund Development, at bpowers@girlscoutsoc.org or call 949-525-8775.

READ JILL'S FULL STORY HERE

Invest in Girls. Change the World.

Donate Now

Your gift in any amount will support Girl Scouts of Orange County in bringing life-changing experiences to more OC girls.

Many Ways to Give

Learn more about our Juliette Gordon Low Society for estate gifts, matching gifts program, in-kind donations, and more. Help bring the life-changing leadership development programs only Girl Scouts provides to more girls all across Orange County!

Follow [@GirlScoutsOC](#) on Instagram



Have a question? Don't be shy!
Contact us for more information.

You are receiving this e-mail because you have requested to receive information from Girl Scouts of Orange County.

Our address is 9500 Toledo Way, Irvine, CA 92618

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